



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

24 February 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Last bulletin: February 17, 2005

Conditions: A harmful algal bloom has been identified off Sarasota, Charlotte, and northern Lee counties. Very low to low impacts are possible at the beach through Saturday. Moderate to high impacts are possible Sunday and Monday. A harmful algal bloom has also been identified northwest and southwest of Key West. Very low impacts are possible at Key West through Friday night. Reports of discolored water are possible.

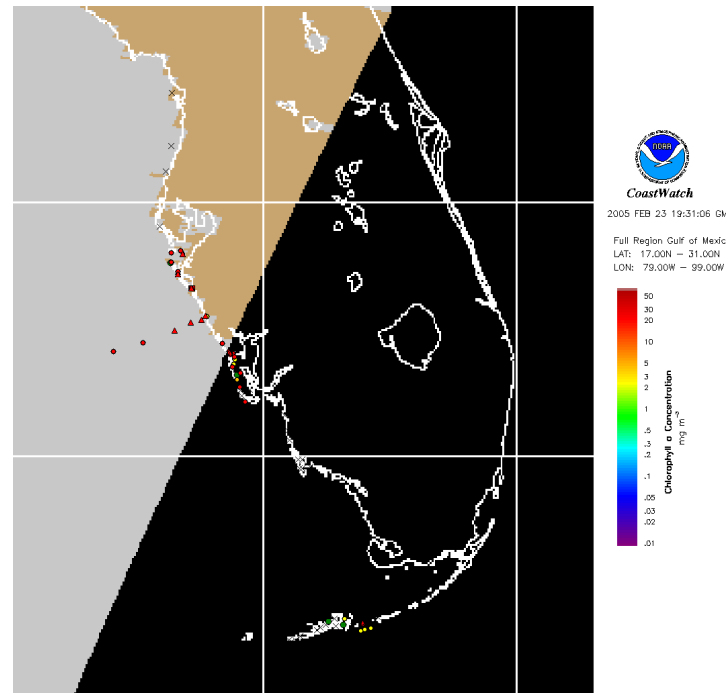
Analysis: Cloudy imagery has limited analysis of the previously identified bloom near Sarasota to Sanibel. Light and consistent southerlies have likely maintained alongshore bloom location. Easterly and northeasterly winds will promote offshore transport and potential intensification on Friday and Saturday. Strong onshore winds on Sunday and Monday will increase likelihood of beach impacts, onshore transport, and slight southward movement. Collier County sampling did not contain *Karenia* as of February 23. No reports of further respiratory distress have been received.

Cloudy imagery has limited analysis of the previously identified bloom offshore of Key West and the lower Keys. Samples from February 16-22 showed very low and present concentrations of *Karenia* were found in the Northwest Channel and north of the Marquesas Keys (MML). No *Karenia* north of the lower keys or near Big Pine. Onshore transport may promote very low impacts at Key West through Friday night. Slight eastward transport of the bloom is possible Sunday and Monday.

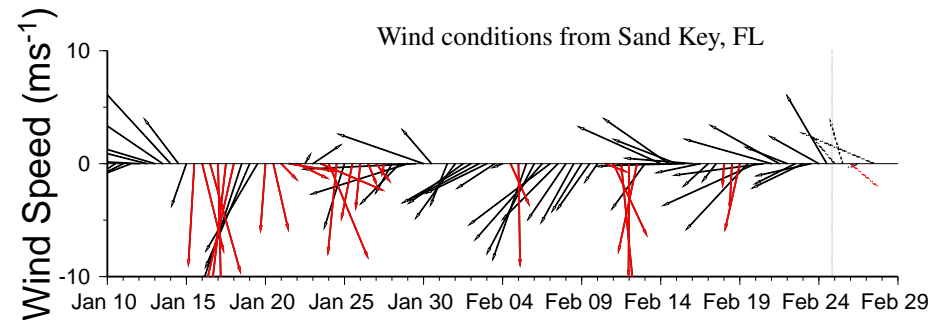
-Fenstermacher & Fisher

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1. These data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
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4. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.



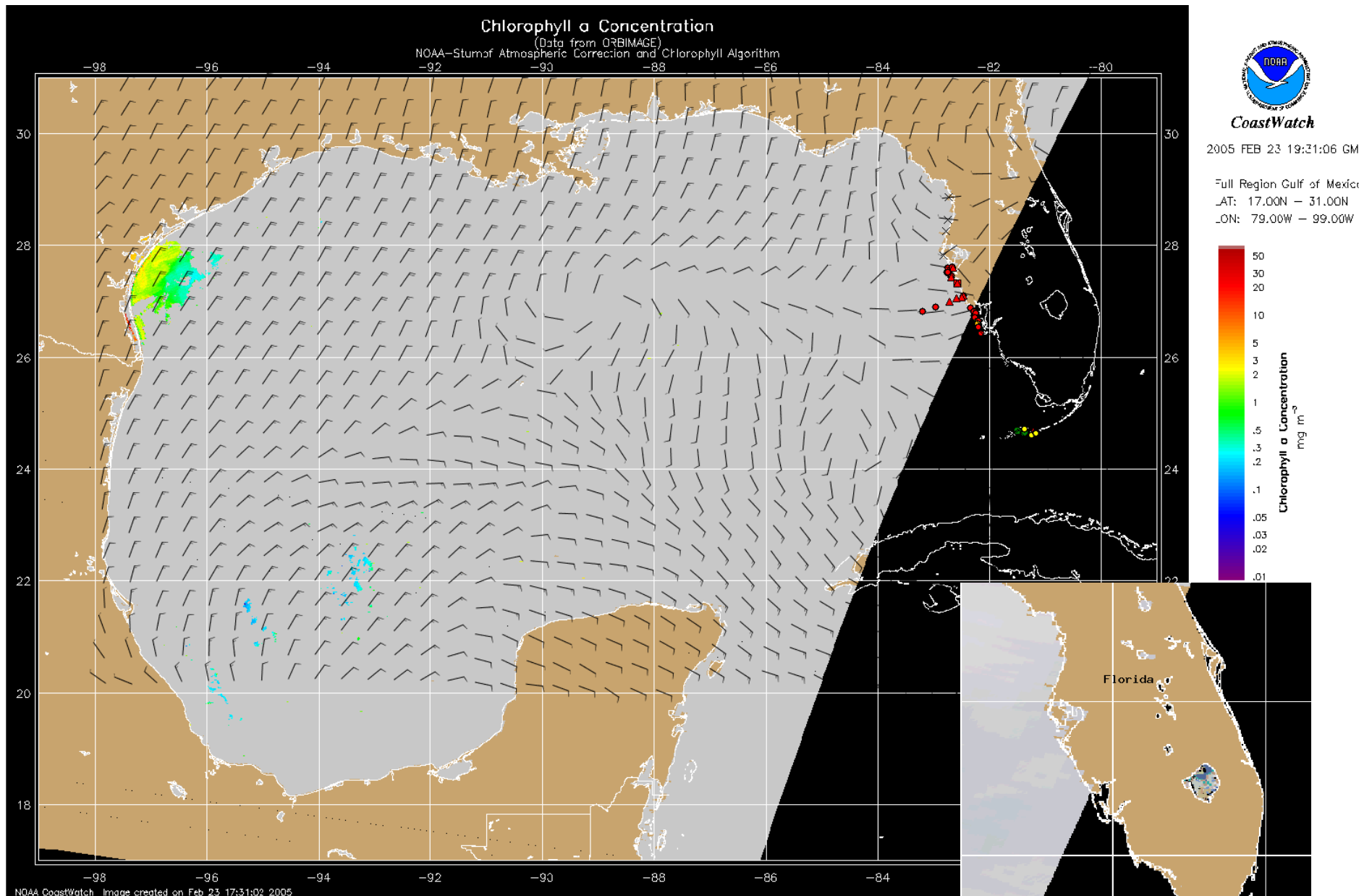
Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from February 11, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Southerly winds today followed by east winds on Friday (10-15 kts; 5-8 m/s). Northeasterlies on Friday night and Saturday (15-20 kts; 8-10 m/s). Westerlies on Sunday and Monday (15-20 kts; 8-10 m/s).

Keys: Primarily southerly winds through Friday (10-15 kts; 5-8 m/s) followed by variable winds Friday night through Sunday (10 knts; 5 m/s). Westerly winds on Monday (15 knts; 8 m/s).



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for February 25, 2005 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from February 11, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis and image for interpretation)

